

Interview with Jean Loustau, French officer in the SS-Standard "Kurt Eggers", Paris, 1988.

Thank you for meeting with me. I would like to start by asking you what brought you to the Waffen-SS.

Jean: You are a good boy and I am pleased to meet you. I must tell my story like this, I liked the way the Germans treated France after the armistice. They did everything to avoid unnecessary killing and destruction. I should know, I was there in 1940 and served in the de Gaulle Regiment. I applauded his speech on June 18th but soon realised that Germany was not the enemy it had been made out to be. Europe was at a crossroads, either we would be nationalist or communist. There was no middle ground, even if the left made it seem that way. Either you loved your people and your nation and wanted to protect your culture, or you didn't.

I met some men from the SS and was very impressed by their love for European culture, not just German culture but all. I traveled with some who were from the Ahnenerbe Society and they went to caves to do research. They spoke to me like a friend and they were absolutely right. They had a large group with many students. The more I researched and read, the more I realized that Hitler was really trying to unite all Europeans to protect our culture from Jewish Bolshevism and their form of corrupt capitalism. I was already leaning to the right as a nationalist and the German occupation brought me definitively to their side. I had made many friends among the Germans and they always asked me to join them to defend our common bond. In 1943 I had decided to help in any way I could and to bring their struggle and ideals to people. I was impressed by Gunther D'Alquen, he was of the highest rank and always elegantly dressed.



Award of the name SS-Standarte "Kurt Eggers" for all units of the SS KB. Published on 08.11.43



Gunter d'Alquen was a German officer in the Allgemeine SS and the Waffen-SS, most recently SS-Standartenführer and editor of the "Völkischer Beobachter", from 1935 chief editor and publisher of the SS magazine "Das Schwarze Korps" and author.

I was offered a place in the Waffen-SS with the promise that a new French Legion was being formed and that I could be assigned to it if I wanted. I agreed and was made an SS-Untersturmführer and assigned to the "Kurt Eggers" company. [This was an SS group of war correspondents, photographers, cameramen and writers, made up of many multilingual foreign volunteers who were fully trained soldiers and were to fight if required.] We had special passes to go to the front in the east and report.

For a while I was part of the Nordland Division, which had thousands of European volunteers.

There were more and more French people who understood that Hitler was up to something. Under the German occupation, people's lives got better. It wasn't perfect, of course, but they introduced some of the good aspects of National Socialism to the workers here. This made the communists angry, and Jews were part of this uprising.

That's why so many were sent to the camps. They called for strikes and riots and killed opponents. That's the resistance they're talking about. That's how I ended up in the SS.

I actually wanted to ask how the Germans treated you. But if I understand correctly, you have already answered that. Did the Germans make your life difficult?



Color slide from occupied Paris 1941

Jean: I don't understand, made life difficult? No, the Germans always had bad feelings towards the French, just as we did towards them. But under Hitler these feelings subsided and I think the victory of 1940 freed them from the resentment they had harbored since the first war.

Sometimes I was called funny names in jest, but it was only a joke. I can report that I have never seen Germans

French

belittled, harassed, threatened or acted like masters. The fact that so many French girls fell in love with Germans is a testament to what the occupation was

like. I strolled along the Champs-Élysées and saw pretty French girls skating, dancing and cuddling with Germans.

The shops welcomed the Germans warmly and helped boost the economy significantly. What I'm sure you didn't know is that the Germans had a program to send French people on trips to Germany. If they worked for the war effort they got paid vacations in the Alps or river cruises. I know a lot of French people who did that. The girls could apply for study or work and many became au pairs for German families and were paid well. Under the German peace people were doing well, of course they don't admit it today but our government copied some of what they did. Of course it would have been better if they hadn't occupied us but eventually we declared war on them. They treated us very well and I'm not sure France would have done the same and after the war we didn't.



French people travelling to Germany to work. Paris, July 1942.

History books and eyewitness accounts claim that the Waffen-SS committed many war crimes and acts of horrific brutality. Can you comment on these claims? Do you believe they are true?

Jean: No, I personally believe that these were spread by our enemies to justify their war. Just like in the first [war], they had to justify why so much was lost and destroyed. If they just said that they don't want a strong Germany, the people would be angry.

If they say we had to stop a madman from taking over the world and killing everyone, then that justifies everything. If they are told we killed civilians, shot prisoners, looted, raped and razed cities to the ground, then that is

everything worthwhile and brave. If these things were true, it would make the SS and everyone who was part of it criminals and not worth living. This is the hatred they want to stir up against us. They will not let these allegations die, they only get louder with each passing year.

They chant Oradour, the resistance, Normandy and so on to create the impression that SS men were particularly cruel and inhumane. People are so busy and distracted that they don't question these things and find out if they are true or exaggerated.

Look at Oradour. I spoke to men who were there and they assured me, as Frenchmen, that the Allies encouraged the villages in that region to hide ammunition and to carry out attacks on our forces.

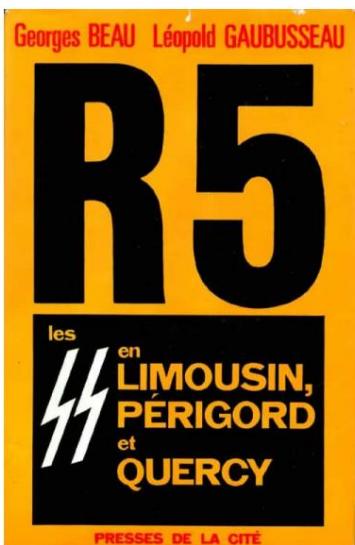
Many innocent people were killed by these terrorists, but not a word about it in the press. The press carefully conceals the culprits and blames the victims. People chose their fate when they broke laws to actively stand up and kill, and some were quite sadistic. The retaliation was harsh, that's true, but people knew this could happen. Still, they chose to fight, risking their homes and property.

The Allies caused far more destruction in France than the Germans did in two wars. I bet you didn't know that they heavily bombed France, killing over a hundred thousand people. You don't learn that, but you do learn that the Germans killed a few hundred terrorists who happened to be living as civilians. I'm sure it was the same in the East. I never saw any of it, but it was talked about. We had to attend a training course explaining how they worked and what to do if we found any. They were to be handed over to the police or militias for investigation.



At this point, it should be expressly stated, as the former Ostubaf. Weidinger also stated at the permanent Higher Military Court in Bordeaux, that neither the Regimental Commander Staf. Stadler, nor the Division "Das Reich", nor any other German Army or Police department ever gave an order to carry out mass executions in Oradour-sur-Glane.

and to let the town burn down, as the French initially claimed..."



Otto Weidinger in an interview in 1969:

As commander of the 2nd SS Panzer Division at that time, I draw a lesson from this: there was an interest on all sides in exploiting the hatred against the Reich Division: the Reich Division had moved through France like the wild beast of the Apocalypse. All of the division's routes were ordered in advance by orders from the Army High Command. The division's advance had always taken place in accordance with orders. For example: German reactions to operations considered illegal were in accordance with General Sperrle's orders. The actions of the Maquis and German orders caused these bloody clashes and the death of a significant number of victims on both sides. From these deaths we draw the lesson of the tragic relations between France and Germany throughout this century. I sincerely and deeply regret the victims who fell on both sides during that period.

You mentioned that you were in Normandy during the invasion. Can you tell me what it was like?

Jean: Yes, I was sent to the invasion front to report. People did not see this as liberation. The Allies bombed, shelled and terrorised the people trapped there. The Germans tried their best to evacuate them but the battle made this difficult. I saw a column of refugees being shelled by the Jabos, killing many people including children. They controlled the air and shot at everything that moved. I saw a farmer working in his field being shot at in his wagon

The destruction was quite complete and, in my opinion, completely unnecessary. The German units tried not to use the cities as fortifications unless it was absolutely necessary.

I didn't get the impression that the Allies gave it much thought. They would attack an area and then storm in after it was ablaze and destroyed. People say there was also heavy looting and word gets out that some girls may have been raped by American soldiers during and after the fighting. I bet you didn't know that. You see, you're making me talk and there's nothing I can do about it.

I want you to know the truth today, but we cannot tell it. For years I have been told about the abuses and crimes, but only a little of it could be said and it was made out to be no big deal. The SS units in Normandy fought bravely and honorably. Those young guys in the Hitler Youth division did really well.

The battle lasted for many weeks and we even had hopes of cornering them, but events to the east and south meant that we had no reinforcements and some regiments were withdrawn to help elsewhere. You wouldn't believe it today but only a small force opposed the Allied landing, which is why they advanced so far on the first day. The better units were far from the invasion and some took two or three weeks to reach the front.



The well-known Chinese model building company 'Dragon' dedicated its model of the Focke-Wulf 190 A-8 (1/48) to the epic flight of the two individual FW 190s of JG 26 under the command of 'Pips' Priller[photo right] against the entire invasion force on June 6, 1944. This was all that was realized - or was allowed to be realized - of the carefully prepared German plans for a large-scale deployment of the Luftwaffe on the day of the invasion!?

On June 7, 1944, the British newspaper The Guardian reported: "In view of the extreme importance to the German High Command of repelling our invasion, it had been expected that air supremacy over the coast would be hotly contested, but so far this has not been the case. Allied air supremacy is superior and unchallenged."

How was the end of the war for you?

Jean: In the end, I was with French comrades who still believed that our people would rise up. We were worried about what to do, knowing that the communists would take revenge. They pretended to be patriots of France, but it was just a facade. Just like the communists in Germany today make films that portray officers as cruel, emotionless robots. They slowly undermine the pride in a nation's history and culture. We remained loyal to the end and surrendered. We applied for asylum in Switzerland, but were handed over to French communists who wanted to kill us all on the spot. However, rumors circulated that all the collaborators had hidden money and gold. Even today you hear stories about it, claiming that we looted and robbed the people and hid the wealth.

While this was not true, it kept us alive long enough until they were forced to hand us over to the judiciary so we could be tried as traitors. This took many years of course and we were all abused, tortured and humiliated by mainly communist guards. However, there was a mild revolution in France when the emboldened communists tried to seize power from the de Gaulle government. This was crushed and many were thrown into prison with us where we had a reckoning if you will. A more right-centre party came to power and granted us all amnesty on the grounds that we had only gone along with it because we had to. To get out of prison we of course winked and nodded. With great pain and sadness I looked back and saw what we had lost.

My beloved France had murdered many patriots who only wanted a better life and a better world for all of us. As former comrades looked at each other, we took stock of those who ended up falling at the hands of the raging mob, men, women and even children dying. And for what reason? They only wanted to work with an idea that would unite all Europeans to strive for mutual support and survival. I have heard horror stories from the women who were on our side; they were raped, beaten, tortured and humiliated. Listen to what our enemies want today: equality, tolerance, human rights and free love. They do not practice this with their opponents; they only showed hatred and malice.

SS-Standard "Kurt Eggers"



This photo was taken at the end of June 1944 in front of the "l'Abbaye d'Ardenne" (Ardenne Abbey) in Caen (Normandy) and was taken by the war correspondent Wilfried Woscidlo, who belonged to the WSS war correspondent company, the "Standarte Kurt Eggers". It shows (from left) the regimental commander of the WSS Panzergrenadier Regiment 25, Obersturmbannführer Heinz Milius, reporting on the military situation to the Sturmbannführer and staff officer of the 12th WSS Panzer Division "Hitlerjugend", Hubert Meyer (in the leather coat). The officer on the far right (he is wearing the Demjansk shield on the top of his jacket sleeve) is the quartermaster and supply officer of the 12th WSS Panzer Division, Obersturmführer Georg Meitzel. The Oberscharführer (second from right) is the war correspondent Herbert Reinecker (1914-2007), who also belonged to the "Standarte Kurt Eggers" and wrote editorials and war reports for the SS newspaper "Das Schwarze Korps" during the war. His last editorial appeared on April 5, 1945. After the war, Reinecker became one of the best-known German authors of children's books, novels and scripts for TV series and feature films. Despite his popularity in post-war Germany, he never made a secret of his membership in the Waffen-SS.

The war correspondent company "Standarte Kurt Eggers" was set up in January 1940 as War Correspondent Department 1 by the WSS. The unit consisted of trained journalists, writers, filmmakers and photographers and was assigned to the fighting units of the WSS. On October 31, 1943, the unit was renamed after the writer Kurt Eggers, who was killed in August 1943. The company commander was Standartenführer Gunter d'Alquen. In 1943, the unit had 141 men and increased to 1,180 men by 1944. A well-known member of the Standarte Kurt Eggers was the later editor of the magazine DER STERN, Henri Nannen, who worked in the sub-unit "Südsterne" in Italy until 1945.

Attachment

In 2005, the **conservative** daily (today, in 2020, the term **right-wing radical** or **extreme** would be used without the slightest reservation) fall) **Preußische Allgemeine Zeitung** an article by the Bundeswehr officer **Walter Held**, who addresses the developments at the time in the views on the role of resistance fighters and takes a clear stance on the matter. It formulates exactly what is missing from many debates and 'critical' treatments of those events. It is the consideration of what happened beforehand, or rather what is causally related to the reprisals that are pushed to the fore and denounced - and then very quickly also to excesses: the previous actions of these glorified fighters. Here too it must be emphasized that, as is so often the case in the reality of such events, there were "like this and like that"...

© Prussian General Newspaper / 26 March 2005

The partisan - a lovable creature?

A critical reflection on a topic shaped by ideology, zeitgeist and political correctness by **Lieutenant Colonel Walter Held**

One may remember the victory celebrations of the Allies in World War II - the landing in Normandy on "D-Day", the victory in Stalingrad with the destruction of the 6th Army or the capture of Berlin, to name just a few examples - are unpleasant from a German perspective; I cannot blame the victors if they want to cash in on such great deeds of the past and use them to at least temporarily gloss over their failures in the present.

However, it becomes unsavory, even downright perverse, when the partisans join in on the fringes or even in the centre of these festivities and celebrate themselves as freedom fighters, guerrillas, resistance or other names, and people with German passports and high state offices bow before them and lament their victims with breaking voices. For the last guerrillas rode almost 200 years ago under their leader Adolf Freiherr von Lützow in a "wild, daring hunt" against the paranoid warmonger Napoleon! His "guerrilla group" (hence the name) gave them their name, and their warlike behaviour established their legendary reputation - to this day. Even then they fulfilled all the requirements of modern martial law, the Hague Convention on Land Warfare (HLKO), which was in force from 1907 to 1949, which stated: If one country attacks, defeats and occupies another, the war is over! Anyone who continues to fight as a guerrilla is no longer subject to the protection of the Hague Conventions and is thus an outlaw because he loses his status as a member of the combat troops (combatant).

The only exceptions according to article are:

- if a responsible person is at the head of the men / women,
- if they wear a specific symbol that can be recognised from a distance (for example, uniform),
- if they carry their weapons openly and
- observe the laws and customs of war in their operations (that is, comply with the Geneva Conventions).

This clearly shows that there were no guerrillas/partisans at all in World War II, because no one fulfilled all four of these conditions. Few carried weapons openly, no one respected the Geneva Convention. So, more or less according to the Hague Convention on Land Warfare, there were only criminals, bandits, rabble, marauders, assassins, terrorists who were outside the law.

Now, in making this assessment, I am by no means clinging pathologically to the letter of the law, for all armies in the world now wear spotted camouflage uniforms so that they cannot be recognized as enemies from a distance; tanks are camouflaged with branches or bunches of grain so that they do not become suicidal targets, as brightly colored uniforms used to do. This meant that the horrific mass slaughter had once again become more like a duel - with opportunities distributed fairly.

When I was a recruit in the Federal Border Guard in 1954, it was hammered into me that I always had to be better than a potential enemy in all military skills, and I tried to pass this on in my service - through the best possible training as the basis for success, as the Wehrmacht proved. But even the better soldier quickly reaches his psychological limits when he encounters the concentrated treachery, meanness, contempt for humanity and disregard for rules of the partisans:

What do you do when explosive charges have been placed under fallen or wounded soldiers, which go off when comrades, medics or doctors rescue them, killing the rescuers? When graves in cemeteries are converted into sniper positions from which individual motorcycle messengers or passers-by can be shot? When a hospital train falls into a ravine in the mountains because the tracks have come loose on a bend, and after rolling over ten times, 20 men are waiting at the bottom with spades and, as a precaution, smash each of their skulls? It doesn't help if they are residents of the next village, even if they were forced to do so by the partisans - the village will pay the price, not one bit different than today! When explosives and ammunition are hidden in church roofs, as in Oradour, because it is known that German soldiers pray in churches but do not search them, and the church is then blown up for reasons that are still not fully understood, the blame is of course placed on "the Nazis"! I would probably need a whole notebook to list the hundreds of perversions from the (in)human brains of "freedom fighters" to which German soldiers were exposed in Russia, the Balkans, Italy and France.

As a "stupid German" I was of course of the opinion that the frontline soldier, who fought decently throughout, should have been allowed and required to defend himself against this with harsh reprisals. But the moral and ethical turnaround from the 1980s, accompanied by an incredible increase in the "higher morals" of do-gooders, taught us something completely new: For example, on March 13, 1997, the "debate on the Wehrmacht exhibition" by Mr. Reemtsma took place in the German Bundestag. The MP Otto Schily also took the floor and devoted a long paragraph of his speech to assessing his own family, during which, according to the minutes, he "paused" several times - out of emotion, as I noticed as an excited spectator. After his uncle

Fritz (a colonel in the Luftwaffe), his brother Peter (seriously wounded as a soldier) and his father (more of a psychological study), he started talking about his father-in-law. "My wife's father, Jindrich Chajmovic, was a Jewish partisan in Russia fought against the Wehrmacht. (He was) - the only one - who gave his life for a just cause." So a lovable character. Because he fought against German soldiers?

Now the fully qualified lawyer and experienced RAF defender Schily - now Minister of the Interior in the Schröder cabinet - was in August Sant'Anna Di Stazzema in Italy and there he loudly mourned an "unspeakable Nazi massacre" and apologized - and of course "paused" again. What had happened there? Only now, almost 60 years after the war, has one "in a office" which was placed with the door against the wall and was therefore "inaccessible"; now someone has evidently taken the courage to turn the cupboard over and open it, and in doing so "documents have fallen into his hands", which prove a Nazi atrocity, as the newspaper Die Welt knows very well. Among other things, "pregnant women were Stomachs ripped open, the unborn children torn out and burned" - so the reputable newspaper. Although such a Nonsense has not even been accused of the "Khmer Rouge", but it is easily attributed to "the Germans", During the First World War they allegedly "chopped off children's hands, threw their bodies in the air and impaled them with bayonets as they fell!"

Schily's national-masochistic attitude is the government norm (who wants to upset the family?), but his lack of legal knowledge surprised me. After all, every woodcutter in Spiegelau - a town in the Bavarian Wald - that a defendant is to be considered "not guilty" until he has been convicted in the final instance.

The main hearing before the competent military court in La Spezia has not yet taken place, but Schily has already his verdict on today's 80 to 90 year olds...

If there were any attacks in Sant'Anna (certainly not in the manner described), they were of course preceded by crimes committed by the "lovable creatures" - let us follow the process closely! And let us always aware of the situation at the time: The defeated Wehrmacht was slowly retreating northwards, attacked by low-flying continuously attacked and decimated, driven from every position by superior artillery, without any hope of victory. was only about bringing home one's own skin. And then there were the treacherous attacks of the country's partisans, the they had come to help in Greece and Africa, where they had fought side by side with Italians! not only that - one had been betrayed by them, and now experienced such atrocities from their side! Today it is rightly denounced that school children do not stop fighting when the opponent is on the ground, but still hit them on the head with boots, the kidneys or other important parts. One should not have defended oneself back then, then one would not be considered a 90-year-old branded a "Nazi pig."

Every glance at the evening news proves that the defeat of Germany has not abolished (aggressive) wars, but rather that their number is increasing. Most of them are fought in the "name of God". The United Nations can cannot prevent this any more than the League of Nations could, and neo-colonialism is stronger than ever; but brings even more "partisans" onto the stage, who today often commit cruel and humanity-shattering acts of terror as suicide bombers; otherwise they would not be heard. Of course, they are not considered "lovable beings" because their barbarism is not directed against German soldiers. And in fighting them, which follows the motto "Terror can only be broken through Counter-Terrorism", the so-called civilized West makes the biggest mistake by ultimately sending its own soldiers into criminals; first victors on the battlefield, then unloved occupiers, they become enemies pursued by hatred and finally, like the torn-to pieces women and children, whose deaths are trivialized as "collateral damage" - victims of global politics or the missionary madness of their "leaders".

Soldiers always had to obey and still have to today - and throw napalm on command, filling the forest with horrific-looking Defoliating with poison, executing the death penalty without a court verdict using a precision missile fired through the air, torturing prisoners under hoods reminiscent of the Ku Klux Klan - not only violating human dignity with trample on their feet, but also destroy them in a devilish way. This not only tears the tormented person to pieces, it also destroys the soul of the most reluctant tormentor. We know of the Vietnam Syndrome, which in the future will probably become an Iraq Syndrome. There is the checkpoint syndrome that is affecting more and more Israeli soldiers, who have to stop pregnant women and dialysis patients in the scorching heat instead of letting them through to the hospital.

You cannot do that to a decent soldier! It means targeted murder of the soul, often also of the body, of your own soldiers. In the long run, it destroys all humanity and all hope for peaceful coexistence in the world. It is as pathetic as the cruelty of the partisans that provokes such a reaction and does not represent a solution to the problems. It only accelerates the spiral of violence. In the end, there are only those to blame.

I will be asked if I know a solution to this. Yes! The pursuit of states enjoying a dominant position for Domination and religious madness are the cause of global terror. Only when this madness stops will we have a chance for a new beginning.

* * * * *



Preliminary remark

The following account of French war crimes serves the sole purpose of showing how people behave and commit crimes in the given and given situations of war. Only those who believe in absolute naivety, could assume - or even be convinced - that excessive violence, such as appeared in Oradour, was only a characteristic of those who It is more likely that a deeper rooted Basis for such processes exists and in the 'unfavorable hour' erupts mercilessly. 'The French' could 'the Germans' in this respect at least give the little finger...
1

Example 1: Angoulême (from: Seidler/de Zayas 'War Crimes in Europe...', p.208/09) ²

95. Erschießung deutscher Kriegsgefangener durch französische Partisanen am 31.8.1944 in Angoulême

Nachdem die Alliierten am 15.8.1944 mit amerikanischen und französischen Truppen an der französischen Mittelmeerküste gelandet waren, gab Hitler am 16.8. den Befehl zur schrittweisen Räumung Südfrankreichs. Die deutsche Heeresgruppe G zog sich daraufhin nach Nordosten in Richtung auf die burgundische Pforte zurück. Offenbar verloren bei den Rückzugsbewegungen zahlreiche deutsche Soldaten den Anschluss an ihre Truppenteile und versuchten, einzeln oder in Gruppen wieder Anschluss an deutsche Verbände zu finden. Zu einer solchen Gruppe gehörten fünf deutsche Soldaten, unter ihnen der damals 19 Jahre alte Helmut Dressel. Auf dem Weg nach Dijon passierten sie unangefochten Bordeaux und gelangten am 31.8. in die Stadt Angoulême, den Verwaltungssitz des Département Charente. Dort wurden sie von einem Kommando der Résistance, Angehörigen der Forces Françaises de l'Intérieur, angehalten. Sie ergaben sich kampflos und wurden entwaffnet. Die Partisanen, die Zivilkleidung mit Armbinden trugen, bedeuteten den fünf deutschen Gefangenen, sich am Place Bourbonnais an der Einmündung der Rue de Moulin niederzusetzen. Nach etwa einer Stunde wurde ihnen befohlen, sich vor die Mauer zu stellen. Die Résistance-Partisanen formierten sich zu einem Erschießungskommando. Als die Gefangenen merkten, dass sie liquidiert werden sollten, baten sie um Pardon, und einige riefen nach ihrer Mutter. Unter den Augen der Anwohner, die den Vorgang aus ihren Fenstern verfolgten, brachten die Freischärler ihre Waffen in Anschlag und streckten die Gefangenen mit einer Salve nieder. Die meisten waren nur verwundet und wälzten sich schreiend am

Boden. Die Partisanen traten auf die Verwundeten zu und gaben einem nach dem andern aus nächster Nähe den Fangschuss. Einer von ihnen, Helmut Dressel, war nur schwer verwundet, verlor aber das Bewusstsein und wurde für tot gehalten. In der Nacht erwachte er, weil er Feuchtigkeit im Gesicht verspürte. Jemand verrichtete über dem toten Deutschen seine Notdurst. Dressel fiel wieder in seine Ohnmacht zurück, aus der er am nächsten Morgen erwachte, als er weggetragen wurde, offenbar um wie seine Kameraden irgendwo verscharrt zu werden. Er konnte sich bemerkbar machen. Tatsächlich schaffte man ihn, wenn auch unter Bedrohungen und Beschimpfungen, ins Hospital Beaulieu, wo er ärztlich versorgt wurde. Er überlebte und konnte 52 Jahre später den Ort des Verbrechens besuchen. Aus diesem Anlass berichtete die örtliche Tageszeitung über die damaligen Ereignisse. Auch in einem Buch von Louis Boye kommt der Vorgang zur Sprache. Der Autor hatte damals zahlreiche Fotoaufnahmen gemacht, mit denen er die Schilderung illustrierte.

Die vier Wehrmachtsoldaten, die den Tod gefunden hatten, wurden zusammen mit zehn weiteren toten deutschen Soldaten zunächst auf dem Friedhof Bardines in Angoulême begraben und 1963 vom Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge auf den deutschen Soldatenfriedhof Berneuil umgebettet. Sie gelten als unbekannte Tote.

Literatur: Boye, Louis: Un jour, le grand bateau viendra. Chronique de la Résistance, Paris 1996; Le fusillé rescapé dès 1944, in: Courrier Français de Charente vom 20.9.1996; Leeser, Hans-Joachim von: Erschießt die Gefangenen!, in: Ostpreußenblatt vom 2.9.2000.

Hans-Joachim von Leeser

Example 2: Annecy (from: Seidler/de Zayas 'War Crimes in Europe...', p.210)

96. Erschießung deutscher Kriegsgefangener bei Annecy am 2.9.1944

Am 2.9.1944 wurden 40 deutsche Kriegsgefangene aus dem Sammellager in Annecy in Hoch-Savoien und weitere 40 deutsche Kriegsgefangene aus Lagern in St. Pierre de Rumilly (Bonneville) durch französische Partisanen der «Forces Françaises de l'Intérieur» (FFI) erschossen. Die 80 Männer wurden von der FFI als Geiseln behandelt, obwohl dies nach Art. 2 der Genfer Konvention von 1929 (Abkommen über die Behandlung von Kriegsgefangenen) verboten war. Die FFI versuchte damit zu erzwingen, dass die deutsche Reichsregierung künftig den französischen Partisanen den Kriegsgefangenenstatus einräumen würde. Im August 1944 hatte sich das Internationale Komitee vom Roten Kreuz (IKRK) als Vermittler zwischen FFI und der Reichsregierung vergeblich bemüht, die Erschießung von deutschen Kriegsgefangenen zu verhindern. Als die Reichsregierung auf die Erpressungen der FFI nicht reagierte, wurden die deutschen Kriegsgefangenen am 2.9.1944 aus den Lagern geholt, auf Lastwagen zu den Exekutionsstellen in der Nähe der Orte Sacconge bzw. Habère-Lullin transportiert und dort erschossen. Die Soldaten selbst erfuhren erst an Ort und Stelle, dass sie exekutiert werden sollten. Es gab vorher keinerlei Verhör oder irgendeine Gerichtsverhandlung. In einer eidesstattlichen Versicherung beschrieb Pfarrer Höchstädt die ganze Aktion, die in solcher Eile betrieben wurde, dass es keine Zeit für Beichte oder Trostworte gab, sondern nur für ein gemeinsames Vaterunser. Einige der zur Erschießung bestimmten Soldaten versuchten zu flüchten, wurden aber von den französischen Partisanen erschossen.

Alle Opfer waren Angehörige der deutschen Streitkräfte, in der Mehrzahl Soldaten der Wehrmacht, zum Teil Angehörige des 1. Bataillons des SS-Polizeiregiments 19 und einer Feldkommandantur, die am 19.8.1944 in Gefangenschaft geraten waren. Nach einer eidesstattlichen Erklärung von Polizeioberinspektor Heinrich Meyer, Kommandeur des 1. Bataillons des Polizeiregiments 19, wurden die Kapitulationsverhandlungen mit dem Kommandanten der FFI, de la Haute Savoie, Commandant Nisier, geführt. Captain Niveau von den amerikanischen Fallschirmtruppen war zugegen. Unter den Erschießungsoptfern waren Hauptmann Christ, Hauptmann Froböse, Leutnant Sauer, Leutnant Schreyer, Leutnant Bruhn und Fliegeringenieur Otter. Viele der Getöteten hatten wegen ihrer Verwendung als Kraftfahrt, Funker usw. nie eine Waffe gebraucht. Über die Erschießungen wurden von der »Wehrmacht-Untersuchungsstelle für Verletzungen des Völkerrechts« ermittelt.

Literatur: Internationales Komitee vom Roten Kreuz: Report of its Activities during the Second World War, Bd. 1, Genf 1948; Luther, Hans: Der französische Widerstand, Tübingen 1957; Böhme, Kurt: Die deutschen Kriegsgefangenen in französischer Hand, München 1971; de Zayas, Alfred: Die Wehrmacht-Untersuchungsstelle, München 1979.

Alfred de Zayas

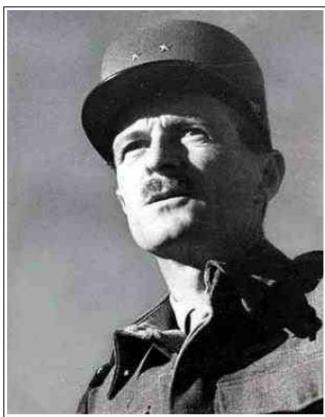
1 The individual incidents are taken from the sources indicated. It should be noted that in cases based on eyewitness accounts there are objections from those who do not want to accept such crimes committed by their own countrymen and therefore consider them to be evil. This is especially true of the report on massive war crimes by former Lieutenant Robert Galley, who After the war, until the 1990s, he was neither prosecuted nor able to enjoy an extensive political career.

2 Franz W. Seidler/Alfred de Zayas (eds.) **'War Crimes in Europe and the Middle East in the 20th Century'**, Verlag Mittler & Sohn, Hamburg-Berlin-Bonn, 2002.

Examples 3 & 4: General Leclerc and Robert Galley

General Leclerc (1902 - 1947), more precisely **Jacques-Philippe Leclerc de Hauteclocque**, was on the march of the He led a tough regiment of Free French troops under his command towards southwest Germany.

His biography can be found in the relevant Wikipedia articles. We are only interested in one incident for which he bore personal responsibility - and by all appearances he may even have borne this responsibility with pride...



Right: General Leclerc, photographed from below. A hero of liberation from head to toe.
no longer visible sole.

Right: General Leclerc with his walking stick and in American Rican uniform clothing.



To describe the incident itself, the following article from the Seidler/de Zayas' collection (p.236/37). A further article on the incident follows. The photographs were taken from the Internet taken...

109. Erschießung französischer Angehöriger der Waffen-SS durch Landsleute in Karlstein am 8.5.1945

Das Ungewöhnliche am Fall Karlstein ist, dass der Verantwortliche für das Kriegsverbrechen der nach General de Gaulle bekannteste und gefeierte Kriegsheld Frankreichs, General Leclerc, Comte De Hautcoque, war. Die Opfer waren junge Landsleute, die als Freiwillige in der 33. Waffengrenadierdivision der SS »Charlemagne« an der Ostfront gekämpft hatten und denen eine angeblich arrogante Bemerkung am Kugelbach bei Bad Reichenhall das Leben kostete.

General Leclerc zog mit der 2. französischen Panzerdivision seit Anfang 1945 eine Spur des Schreckens von Germersheim durch den Schwarzwald und über Neu-Ulm bis in den Chiemgau, wobei Brandschatzen, Plündern, Vergewaltigen und Mord zur Tagesordnung gehörten. In Siegsdorf, nahe dem Chiemsee, quartierte er sich am 4.5.1945 noch einmal ein, um die Kräfte für den Sturm auf den Obersalzberg zu sammeln, wo man das Zentrum der mysteriösen Alpenfestung vermutete und Bormann oder Göring zu fangen hoffte. Seine Truppen, vorwiegend Marokkaner, überzogen das kleine Dorf mit einer Plünderungs- und Vergewaltigungsorgie. Nicht einmal Leutnant Suzanne Massu in seinem Stab nahm daran Anstoß. Sie hatte nur Hitlers Residenz auf dem Obersalzberg vor Augen und schrieb dann auf dessen dort erbeutetem Briefpapier patriotische Briefe nach Hause.

In der Nähe von Bad Reichenhall hatten die Amerikaner zwölf französische Soldaten der Waffen-SS-Division »Charlemagne« gefangen genommen und in der Gebirgsjägerkaserne am Ort eingesperrt. Als man ihnen eröffnete, man werde sie an Leclerc ausliefern, machten sie einen verzweifelten Ausbruchsversuch, wurden aber im nahen Wald wieder eingefangen und den Franzosen übergeben. General Leclerc vernahm sie persönlich und herrschte sie an, ob sie sich nicht schämten, eine fremde Uniform zu tragen. Darauf soll Leutnant Briffaut, der Ranghöchste unter den Gefangenen, geantwortet haben: »Sie tragen ja auch eine fremde Uniform, mon général.« Leclerc trug zu diesem Zeitpunkt als einziger der Division tatsächlich eine amerikanische Uniform. Darauf befahl Leclerc, die zwölf zu erschießen. Ein Kriegsgericht fand nicht statt.

Der französische Leutnant, der die Exekution durchführen sollte, wollte mit dem Beistand des Divisionsgeistlichen, Pater Gaume, den Befehl verweigern. Er musste sich jedoch fügen. Mit einigen seiner Opfer empfing er die heilige Kommunion, bevor die Todeskandidaten auf

einem LKW zum Kugelbach in Karlstein gebracht und dort am 8.5.1945 um 17.00 Uhr in drei Gruppen zu je vier Mann erschossen wurden, wenige Stunden vor dem Inkrafttreten der deutschen Kapitulation. Die Schüsse des Exekutionskommandos gehörten zu den letzten, die im Zweiten Weltkrieg fielen. Da alle Erschossenen mit den Worten »Es lebe Frankreich!« starben, blieb die Exekution nicht ohne psychische Auswirkung auf die Angehörigen des Pelotons.

Zur Erinnerung an die zwölf jungen Franzosen, von denen acht bis heute noch als vermisst gelten, weil sie, um ihre Angehörigen in Frankreich vor Repressalien zu schützen, ihre Namen nicht nannten, findet jedes Jahr im Mai eine Gedenkveranstaltung am Kugelbach statt.

Literatur: Hofmann, Fritz: Die Schreckensjahre von Bad Reichenhall, Mitterfelden 1979. Schönhuber, Franz: Ich war dabei, München 1981; Brückner, Joachim: Kriegsende in Bayern 1945, Freiburg 1987.

Walter Held

The following article also describes the aftermath of the incident...

A sad incident occurred at the end of the last war in Karlstein near Bad Reichenhall. Here At the Kugelbach, 12 soldiers of the 33rd Grenadier Division of the Waffen-SS "Charlemagne" were captured by the 3rd US Army under General Patton and handed over to the 2nd French Panzer Division under its commander Leclerc. Under General Leclerc, numerous mass murders and other war crimes had already been committed in the months before. Germans came.

It was now he who personally interrogated the French volunteers who fought on the German side, and he scolded them, whether they were not ashamed to wear a foreign uniform. The highest-ranking prisoner is said to have replied: "You We're wearing a foreign uniform, mon général!"

Leclerc, who was actually wearing an American uniform, then ordered their Shooting.

The French officer in charge of the execution wanted to refuse the order, but had to comply. This is how it came about that the twelve young soldiers of the "Charlemagne" division were shot at the Kugelbach in Karlstein on May 8, 1945, just a few hours before the German capitulation came into effect. All of them fell shouting "*Long live France!*"

The bodies were left lying on the side of the road and only discovered by the American troops who followed (in a mass grave in the St. Zeno cemetery in Reichenhall, opposite the grave of the Knight's Cross holder General of the Mountain Troops Rudolf Konrad and the memorial site for the pilot who was awarded the Knight's Cross in Libya, First Lieutenant Alfred Wehmeyer) buried.

After 62 years, these brave sons of France have suffered a second great injustice. An equally sad

The incident took place at the place on the Kugelbach, where a memorial cross commemorates the murdered and where every year in May French, Italians, Germans and many other Europeans meet to peacefully commemorate the dead. The memorial cross bore the following inscription:

Quote:

"TO THE TWELVE BRAVE SONS OF FRANCE
WHICH WAS BORN ON 8 MAY 1945 IN KARLSTEIN AS
PRISONERS OF THE WINNERS WITHOUT JUDGMENT
WERE EXECUTED"

In the days before the Order of Knights Cross Bearers met for their annual federal meeting, this time in Bad Reichenhall on 20/21 October, it was probably to mark possible tributes and memories of the French brothers in arms and comrades to prevent the memorial site of the cowardly murder from being destroyed in the truest sense of the word was flattened. The Free State of Bavaria had terminated the local soldiers' association's lease for the piece of land in the state forest.

Saarlanders

© Prussian General Newspaper / 25 February 2006

Since there is a broken relationship with the 'commemoration of the perpetrators', the classification of this contribution is no problem for the connoisseur, since the appropriate stamps are available in various labels.

The 'prelude' to the tragic incident is sufficiently documented photographically...



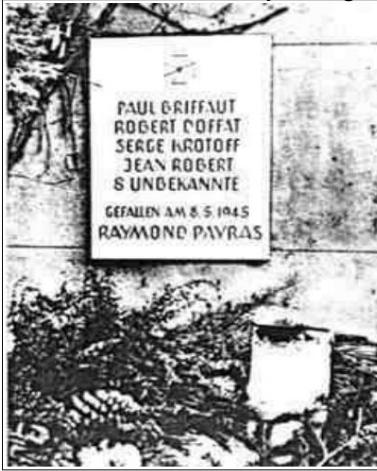
Left: General Leclerc interrogated the renegade compatriots.



Right: The group from the opposite perspective...



Below: A long shot of the scenery.
observe the prescribed
Hands of the first soldier in the front row...

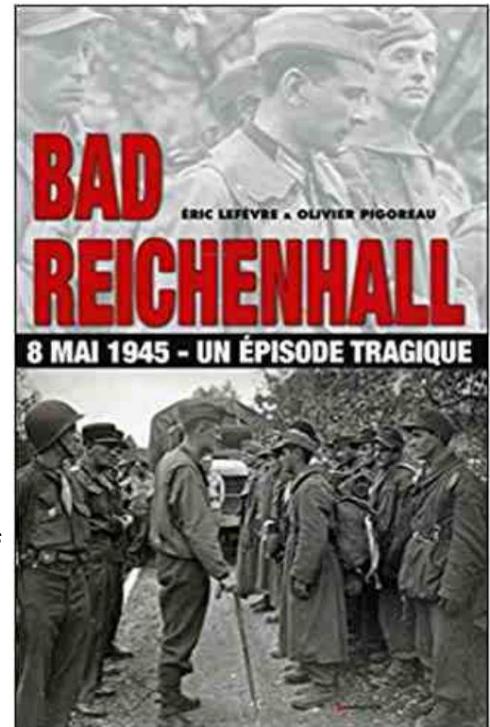


Left: The old memorial plaque, which has since is said to no longer exist. Of the twelve people shot, four are known by name.

Eric Lefèvre has written a book about it, whose content is described with the following words (Amazon.fr.):

"On May 8, 1945, when the weapons in Europe were finally fell silent, were near Bad Reichenhall, Germany, twelve Frenchmen in German uniforms shot by other Frenchmen who were in the second Panzer Division of General Leclerc. Who were these twelve people who were shot? What were they like got there? What did you say to Leclerc when he questioned her a few hours before the execution? 65 years after the events, these questions and many others remain unanswered.

The result of a long research at the places of execution, in the civil and military archives, with the families and actors of the drama, this book sheds light on most of the grey areas of the affair. It shows, among other things, that investigations were carried out by courts and that two ministers of defence decided not to continue the investigations that had been carried out. The work also tells the long march of a Part of the French Waffen-SS of the "Charlemagne" division, survivors of the fighting in Pomerania, in a dying empire, their fights in Bavaria against the Americans and their escape through the Alps. This book is both a historical report and a police investigation and looks at a little-known episode at the end of the Second World War, a French tragedy that inspired several novels and films."



It should be noted that General Leclerc had a daughter who married Lieutenant **Robert Galley**, a member of the same glorious unit that her father, General Leclerc, led to victory over the then German Empire.

The name Galley is associated with a number of other alleged war crimes, which will be described in another article in continuation of the above article...

It is common knowledge that on May 8, 1945, the French General Leclerc had twelve French volunteers from the 33rd Waffen-SS Division "Charlemagne" shot without a trial near Bad Reichenhall.

Only a few historians know that his 2nd Panzer Division, during the advance from Normandy to Berchtesgaden, committed serious war crimes, which he either ordered, covered up or approved. So far, this Officer in France was always glorified and the crimes of his soldiers had to be kept secret.

Now the French historian *Daniel Guerain* has followed the traces of this 2nd Panzer Division by interviewing German and French eyewitnesses and visiting the scenes of the fighting. The results

He has published his research in his book "*The Reverse Side of a Legend, History of a Liberation*" (Le revers de la legende histoire d'une Liberation) in 2000.

So far he has not found a publisher in France or Germany who dared to publish this book, which the legend of Leclerc as a "knight without fear or reproach" is destroyed. The author lets soldiers of this division speak, who report on frequent shootings - especially of Waffen-SS soldiers. For example, in Ecouche

Members of Leclerc's division doused German prisoners with gasoline and burned them.

A massacre of German prisoners of war took place at Le Bourget airfield. Particularly brutal

The then Lieutenant **Robert Galley** took the lead. The private Albert Bisson (3rd Company of Marche du Chad, 1st Company, 2nd Platoon) tells in his war diary:

"We will bypass Chaumont at a distance of a few kilometers and attack Andelot on 2.9.1944 at 1.00 p.m.

(Haute-Marne). Our light 10.5 field howitzers fire a few salvos at the village. Observe with binoculars

we feel the impact of the grenades. The fire of the German guns is effective. We continue to advance and reach the entrance of the village. The Boches come towards us in small groups to surrender. There are 500,

soon about 1000. We disarm them and send them to the rear. We continue to advance. From all sides we are receiving

we encounter rifle fire. Grenade launchers are activated, so we throw ourselves to the ground. We search a house for the others and come out with prisoners. A few meters away from me, Captain Sarazac takes a colonel, the

Local commanders, captured. Gradually more and more Germans come out of their hiding places and surrender.

We have several dead and wounded and must take revenge. Another 500 prisoners of war are already approaching.

"Wait, Kers!" calls Lieutenant Galley, tank commander of the 501st Regiment of Chars de Combat. He lets the Germans into a barn, puts his tank in front of it and orders over his microphone: "Turret to the left, stop! Explosive grenade!

Fire!" The grenade explodes with a thunderous bang in the middle of the pile of "Boches". The splinters tear their bodies apart. Body parts stick to the beams of the barn. We kill everyone who is still alive with the machine gun. Today is the day of vengeance".

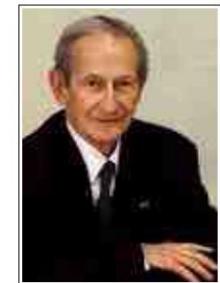
Lieutenant Galley was guilty of further war crimes, of which he openly boasted on television. However, his atrocities did not prevent him from serving under de Gaulle, Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing and becoming treasurer until 2000. of Chirac's party.



Robert Galley in middle age...



"Inaugurated in November 2018, this memorial honors Robert Galley, the resistance fighter of the Free France, 'Compagnon de la Libération', Minister from 1968 to 1981 and Mayor of Troyes from 1972 to 1995" (Internet 'Troyes Champagne Tourism')



...and as a nice old grandfather who couldn't harm a fly.

Now, as already indicated in note 1, caution is certainly advisable. Are not such reports by those involved, in the French "Landser" jargon, more like eulogies written in the intoxication of their own patriotic exhilaration, as they are known from the memoirs of former partisans? And then something else that could make the average reader cautious: an author whose book nobody wants to publish? There must be something fishy going on be! May be, but may not be...

In any case, the original short article by this author, **Daniel Guérain**, is inserted here, which at least was published by Seidler/de Zayas considered suitable for publication in her collection.³

98. Französisches Massaker an deutschen Kriegsgefangenen in Andelot am 12.9.1944

Nach der Befreiung von Paris setzte die 2. Französische Panzerdivision unter General Philippe Leclerc ihren Siegeszug in das Département Haut-Marne fort. Am 12.9.1944 eroberte das 3. Bataillon des Regiments »Marche du Tschad« das Dorf Andelot bei Chaumont. Die Kämpfe um den Ort dauerten zwar nur eineinhalb Stunden, waren aber für beide Seiten verlustreich. Auf der französischen Seite starb auch der Regimentsadjutant Deschamps. Von den deutschen Verteidigern fielen etwa 500 Soldaten und etwa 1.000 gerieten in Kriegsgefangenschaft. Rund 500 Kriegsgefangene wurden in der Scheune des Bauernhofes von Marguerite Brûlé versammelt. Panzerkommandant Unterleutnant Robert Galley vom 501. R.C.C., dessen Panzer auf der Straße unweit der Scheune anhielt, befahl seiner Besatzung »Tourelle ... gauche! Stop! Obus explosif! Feu!« Das Geschoss explodierte mitten unter den Gefangenen. Gliedmaßen flogen durch die Luft. Wer nicht tot war, wurde mit dem Maschinengewehr niedergemacht.

Von Robert Galley werden weitere Kriegsverbrechen berichtet: Am Ufer der Orne ließ er einen Priester, in dem er einen verkleideten SS-Mann vermutete, ohne Gerichtsverfahren mit Benzin übergießen und anzünden. Bei Alençon machte das Regiment auf seine Initiative keine Gefangen; alle Deutschen, die sich ergeben wollten, wurden erschossen. Bei Ecouché walzten französische Panzer Getreidepuppen nieder, in denen sich deutsche Soldaten versteckt hatten. Die Soldaten wurden unter den Panzerketten zermalmt. In einem anderen Dorf ließ Galley Angehörige der Ostlegionen, die in deutschen Diensten standen, fesseln und anzünden, weil sie angeblich eine Französin vergewaltigt hatten. Um den Vormarsch nicht zu beeinträchtigen, ließ er mehrmals deutsche Gefangene erschießen, deren Rücktransport Probleme bereiten könnte; dazu gehörten insbesondere alle Verwundeten. Bei Herbsheim im Elsaß sonderte Galley am 2.12.1944 unter den versammelten Kriegsgefangenen alle Männer aus, die ihren Dienstrang oder ihre Zugehörigkeit zur Waffen-SS kaschierten, und befahl ihre Erschießung. Es waren etwa 200 Männer von 800.

Nach dem Krieg engagierte sich Galley bei den Gaullisten. 1968 machte ihn George Pompidou zum Minister für Wohnungsbau. Bis 1981 gehörte er allen Kabinetten an, entweder als Wissenschaftsminister, Post- und Fernmeldeminister, Transportminister, Armee-minister, Minister für Zusammenarbeit oder Verteidigungsminister. Von 1984 bis 1990 war er Schatzmeister der gaullistischen RPR und verantwortlich für die illegale Beschäftigung von Parteimitgliedern im Bürgermeisteramt von Paris zur Zeit von Jacques Chirac, der damals gleichzeitig Chef der RPR war. 1972 bis 1995 war Galley auch Bürgermeister von Troyes.

Literatur: Befragung von Albert Bisson, Louis Larnignon, Pierre Quillet, Michel Carage, Yves de Darivar; Quillet, Pierre: *Le chemin le plus long*, Paris 1997; Daniel Guérain: *L'Envers de la Légende. Histoire d'une Libération*, Bonneville 2002.

Daniel Guérain

But isn't all of this, as one could easily say, just peanuts compared to the crimes committed by the German side, and isn't it primarily a reaction to previous misdeeds committed by the Germans? This type of argument enjoys a certain popularity.

One could also argue that, for example, the order to execute General Leclerc was entirely within the framework of the reactions to acts of treason committed by one's own citizens that were considered common in a state of war, and, moreover, was also covered by the applicable laws of war - a question that only competent experts in international law and the law of war could discuss, and perhaps would not even come to a unanimous opinion...

The examples given are sufficient as they are incidents that occurred in the context of military operations during the Second World War.

In the following, we will describe events which are solely the responsibility of France and which, to a certain extent, may recall the idea raised in the foreword about a general evil operating underground.

3 As the author has already mentioned elsewhere in his texts, at least Franz W. Seidler, since the publication of some of his later

Books, among 'serious historians' - as Hans Erich Volkmann describes himself and some others - stigmatized as *persona non grata*. The French Wikipedia entry on Galley refers to Guérain's research: "The history of the tank company to which Galley belonged was traced in a book containing a series of war actions. On August 14, 1944, Lieutenant Galley ordered the murder of a German SS man disguised as a priest in Écou-ché (Orne); on May 6, 1945, he ordered the execution of SS prisoners of war in Bischofswiesen, Germany." The German Wikipedia entry initially contained the same reference, but was later, presumably to

Example 5: Algeria 1945

<https://www.echoroukonline.com/algerian-war-veterans-well-not-forgive-france-even-if-it-apologizes>

Algerian war veterans: "We will not forgive France even if it apologizes."

2016/05/08



Note: The photo attached to the article is not commented on there, so it is not clear whether it has anything to do with the event described or depicts another massacre in Algeria. The helicopter seen in the background on the left is, however, an Alouette II, a type that was only put into service in 1957. In any case, the question arises as to why French soldiers evidently found it necessary to pull up the shirts and down the trousers of the dead men. Could this be a reference to the still-virulent remnants of practices from the Great Revolution? Or could the dead lined up have been Frenchmen slaughtered by Algerians? The Algerians may also have been familiar with this atavistic custom. In any case, a careless handling of images is evident here.

The Kherrata community in Bejaia (Eastern Algeria) welcomed the celebrations marking the 71st anniversary of the 8 September 1945 massacres. May 1945 by organizing events and lectures in the presence of Abderrahmane Ben Khalfa and the Finance Minister, in which the French historical massacres were discussed.

In this context, one of the war veterans who witnessed these massacres after the foreign Soldiers had wiped out his family before his eyes: "At a time when the revolutionary archive of the community Kherrata was burned down in the events of January 2011 and there are no official statistics on the number of dead, the place that was the scene of the crime committed by colonialism against humanity remains without any concrete memory, apart from what was carved in stone by the French government to glorify its crimes, such as the rocks of "Chaabet Lakhra" preserved to this day, what was done by the foreign soldiers that Algerians threw into the Akrione valley, whose waters were colored with the blood of the martyr."

War veteran "Said Alik", 71, said: "I was 12 years old during the massacres on May 8. I woke up at 6:00 a.m. because of the noise of protests when Algerians raised the flag in anticipation of independence and shouted "Algeria free and independent". Only one woman, "Boulghézoua Mahdjouba", took part in the march on May 9, 1945. She was crying", he shouts and adds; "But soon the situation was reversed and one of the demonstrators of the march named "Cheibani El Kheyer" left the line towards the podium. A French policeman shot him dead. He became the first martyr of the massacres in Kherrata, which aroused the anger of the demonstrators, who set fire to the post office with petrol. and the demonstrator who committed this act survived after the evacuation, but the events did not stop at this point, and the foreign soldiers intervened and shot people at random, 20 civilians in one fell swoop."

"War veterans killed seven Frenchmen in response to the attacks they carried out on the population and before the In the uncontrollable situation, I fled into the house with my two brothers, but the forces chased us. My mother told me to hide behind a small rock at the entrance of the house while my father Moussa was sick. The forces violently invaded our house and my father had difficulty getting up, but they shot him.

Is this also a *quantité négligeable* for official France and its glorious military tradition? The author cannot offer any results of his own research on this; moreover, he thinks that the French are not aware of this with and among themselves. themselves. And if you read the report in terms of "who started it?" then it was of course the Algerians.

The following screenshot of a French "pacification measures" in Algeria provides an overall picture of the Article by the Maghreb Post. If you can trust the information there, you can see what a *great problem* the Grande Nation has to deal with...

<https://www.maghreb-post.de/gesellschaft/algerien-erinnerung-das-massaker-vom-8-mai-1945/>

Algerien – Erinnerung an das Massaker vom 8. Mai 1945

In Sétif, Guelma und Kherrata, starben 45.000 Algerierinnen und Algerier bei Protesten.

Mai 8, 2022

Ein „Verbrechen gegen die Menschlichkeit“ durch die Kolonialmacht Frankreich.

Algier – Vor siebenundsiebig Jahren, als Frankreich den Sieg der Alliierten über den Nationalsozialismus feierte, massakrierte die französische Armee Tausende von Algeriern, die in Sétif, Guelma, Kherrata und anderen Städten für ein freies und unabhängiges Algerien demonstrierten. Algerien nennt dieses schreckliche Ereignis ein „Verbrechen gegen die Menschlichkeit“.

Algerien beginn am heutigen Sonntag den „Tag des Gedenkens“ in Erinnerung an die Opfer der blutigen Unterdrückung durch die französische Kolonialmacht. Die Opfer waren die algerischen Demonstranten, die am 8. Mai 1945 für Unabhängigkeit demonstrierten.

Die Algerierinnen und Algerien, die während des Zweiten Weltkriegs an der Seite des freien Frankreichs gegen Nazi-Deutschland kämpften, sehnten sich auch nach ihrer eigenen Freiheit. Sie sahen sich jedoch brutaler Unterdrückung und beispieloser Gewalt ausgesetzt, insbesondere in Sétif, Guelma und Kherrata, wo mehr als 45.000 Algerierinnen und Algerier ermordet wurden.

In Sétif wurde ein friedlicher Marsch brutal unterdrückt. Die Demonstration endete blutig, und das Töten begann mit dem Tod des jungen Saâl Bouzid, der von einem Polizeiinspektor erschossen wurde, weil er die algerische Flagge geschwenkt hatte.

Die Protestbewegung breitete sich dann auf Kherrata und Guelma aus, wo französische Truppen und Milizen ebenfalls mit Gewalt reagierten. Das ganze Land wurde im Mai von blutigen Repressionen getroffen. Dörfer wurden niedergebrannt und Familien wurden bei lebendigem Leib verbrannt.



Der Historiker Jean-Pierre Peyroulou erklärt: „Die Militäroperationen gingen weit über bloße Repression hinaus. Es war ein echter Krieg gegen sehr schwach bewaffnete Zivilisten, der bis zum 24. Mai andauerte“.

Nach Ansicht von Historikern müssen diese Ereignisse im Kontext der Zeit betrachtet werden. Die Unterdrückung wird nun als Massenmord angesehen. Die französische Armee und zahlreiche Kolonialmilizen, die sich aus Zivilisten europäischer Herkunft zusammensetzten, töteten Zehntausende von Menschen, die zuvor willkürlich verhaftet, gefoltert oder hingerichtet wurden.

Der Präsident der Republik, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, erinnerte an diesen „Tag des Gedenkens“, und nannte die Massaker der Kolonialarmee ein „Verbrechen gegen die Menschlichkeit“.

Das Staatsoberhaupt hatte dieses Datum als einen „Wendepunkt in der Geschichte des Kampfes gegen den Kolonialismus“ bezeichnet.

In diesem Zusammenhang betonte der Präsident der Republik Algerien die Notwendigkeit, „die Symbole der Revolution zu respektieren und die nationale Geschichtsschreibung und deren Vermittlung an die Jugend zu fördern, damit diese Ereignisse im nationalen Gedächtnis erhalten bleiben“.

There is a German Wikipedia entry on the **Sétif massacre** : https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massaker_von_S%C3%A9tif

Example 6: Indochina 1947

Even in this distant part of the French colonial empire, massacres were recorded that were solely the responsibility of the French. The following example is taken from an **English** Wikipedia page on the event...

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%EB%BB%B9_Tr%E1%BA%A1ch_massacre

The **My Trach massacre** (Vietnamese: *Thým sát Mý Trých*) was a war crime committed by the French Army against Vietnamese civilians during the First Indochina War.

French soldiers committed the massacre in My Trých village, My Thuy commune, Le Thuy district, Quang Binh province, Vietnam from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. on November 29, 1947.

The French army burned 326 houses and murdered more than half of the village's inhabitants. French soldiers raped many women before murdering them. The French army murdered over 300 civilian residents in My Trach, including 170 women and 157 children.

The site of the massacre was at the foot of the My Trach Bridge, a bridge on the North-South Railway, near the My Trach train station. French soldiers forced the victims to walk to the foot of the bridge and lined them up before shooting them with machine guns.

Every year, residents of My Trach mourn on November 29, the “Day of Hate”.

On December 27, 2001, the Ministry of Culture of Vietnam designated the memorial park in which the memorial complex is located as one of the National Historical Relics of Vietnam.

One would almost be tempted to say: “How similar the pictures are...”

In the absence of a French description of the events, or at least a French Wikipedia entry - which unexpectedly **does not exist** - we can only refer to the more detailed one from the Iranian IRNA, which can be found online in French:

<https://fr.irna.ir/news/84861664/Crimes-oubli%C3%A9s-de-la-France-au-Vietnam-le-massacre-du-village>

Forgotten crimes of France in Vietnam; the massacre in the village of My Trach

Tehran (IRNA) – What the French media call the "Indochina War (1946-1954)" is referred to in Vietnam as the War of Resistance against France. During this conflict, the French army committed numerous massacres of innocent civilians in this region.

In the last years of the Second World War and after the Japanese withdrawal from their occupied territories,

the western colonial states began to reoccupy their colonies. The French army led the first Indochina War in this direction and fought against the Vietnamese separatists for eight years from 1946. 1947 French troops attacked a small village called My Trach and burned 326 houses. Afterwards, the French soldiers gathered the villagers under a bridge and shot them. The river turned turned to blood, and more than half of the village population, including 170 women, 94 old people and 157 children, were killed. Some families had no members left.

There is no picture of this crime, but for seventy years, on the anniversary of this incident, the people of this village remember those who were killed.

According to numerous documents, the village of My Trach was founded more than 500 years ago. My Trach, a peaceful Farming village, is crossed by the north-south railway line, the railway bridge over the river bears the same Names like the village of My Trach. In the garden of coconut trees near the My Trach bridge there is a stele house that commemorates this genocide massacre perpetrated by France. Many old residents of the village still have Memories of that terrible morning 71 years ago.

My Trach village is located in My Thuy commune, Le Thuy district, Quang Binh province. On the afternoon of November 28, 1947, the French army assembled at Fort Thuong Phong at Xuan Bo post (Xuan Thuy commune) across the river to focus on coordination with other forces, such as the army in Fort Hoa Luat Nam, (Cam Thuy commune).

On November 29, 1947, at around 2 a.m., French colonial troops secretly laid siege to the village of My Trach an ambush. Although the village was quickly alerted, the Vietnamese fighters and the population were overwhelmed by the large number of French soldiers and the support of their powerful artillery.

From 5 to 8 a.m. the enemy invaded the village from three directions and shelled it, burning 326 houses, stole all the rice, cattle and raped the girls and women. Then they rounded up more than 300 people at the My Trach Bridge to kill them in order to destroy the morale of the revolutionary forces.

But despite these criminal brutalities by France, the resistance of the Vietnamese people held firm and finally managed to liberate Indochina.

Right: The memorial site for the My Trach massacre.



Left: The memorial stone with the names of the victims.

* * * * *

source